



BIBLIODRAMA AS A WAY OF INTERCULTURAL LEARNING FOR ADULTS



The **BASICS** project was developed to research the adaptation of Bibliodrama for use as an interfaith and intercultural educational tool, to encourage dialogue and understanding throughout Europe and beyond.

The **Bibliodrama** title is shared by a number of methodologies with individual histories and geographical ties which have shown themselves to be effective techniques for expanding believers' understanding of their sacred texts. The BASICS project pulls together established practitioners from the two main schools of Bibliodrama, Peter Varga from Budapest, Hungary, and Yael Unterman from Jerusalem, Israel, together with partners from Iceland, Poland, and Turkey, creating a consortium with the expertise and the audiences required to develop innovative new curricula aimed at enabling beneficiaries both to explore their own faiths, and to better understand other beliefs and believers, their similarities and differences, and the place of different cultures within a united Europe.

An initiative of the Bielsko Artistic Association Grodzki Theatre, BASICS aims to expand upon some of the concepts expressed in The Council of Europe's publication, The White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue, May 2008. Specifically, it is a practical interpretation of a conviction which the project partners all share, "Only dialogue allows people to live in unity in diversity".

The Grundtvig Lifelong Learning Programme is aimed at furthering the education of adults from all walks of life, and often focuses on 'alternative' institutions and methods of delivery. By bringing together universities, artistic institutions, social organisations, and adult educators, the BASICS project intends to make the most of the vast possibilities the Grundtvig programme provides.

What we will produce:

- * Innovative teaching curricula for the implementation of bibliodrama as an educational tool serving interfaith and intercultural dialogue. The curricula will be published in 5 languages.
- * An accompanying DVD, showing the processes and their outcomes as a complement to the curricula.
- * National pilot workshops, publication launches.
- * An international Grundtvig course to begin the widespread propagation of the methodology.

Partners:

Church Forum Foundation (Hungary) has been involved in innovative and alternative religious mental care for more than 20 years. Its main activity is the translation and distribution of contemporary theological literature, and developing catechetical educational methods in workshops. www.egyhzforum.hu

The Reykjavic Academy (Iceland) is an academic institute and site for independently working scholars, founded in 1997. Members of the academy are individuals, institutions, and corporations. Björg Árnadóttir, a member of the Reykjavic Academy, is an adult educator working in fields such as creative writing and theological dialogues. www.akademia.is

Kocaeli University Institute of Health Sciences (Turkey) is a major research institution highly experienced in the development and implementing of training programs, with specialists dealing in religious attitudes and approaches to life and their advantages and consequences in trauma and disaster therapy. www.kocaeli.edu.tr

The Elijah Interfaith Institute (Israel) is a multinational organisation dedicated to fostering peace between the world's diverse faith communities through interfaith dialogue, education, research, and dissemination. Elijah's unique programming generates interfaith dialogue at the highest levels, bringing together world religious leaders and renowned scholars the world over, through research projects, public conferences and community-based initiatives. www.elijah-interfaith.org

EST Education Centre (Poland) is an adult education provider founded in 1994 offering training in fields such as foreign languages, ICT training, and communication skills courses. EST has been involved with a number of intercultural communication programmes and also has extensive experience as a project evaluator. www.est.edu.pl

The Bielsko Artistic Association Grodzki Theatre (Poland) was founded in 1999 and brings together artists, pedagogues, and entrepreneurs to support socially excluded groups. Its activities include arts and educational workshops, editing and publishing projects, training programs for instructors, teachers, therapists, artists, and volunteers, and vocational training programs for socially excluded groups. www.teatrgrodzki.pl

BASICS: Bibliodrama as a way of intercultural learning for adults

With the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union.

Grant Agreement number: 2011-3266/001-001

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.